Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6477

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

US LIAISON OFFICE PEKING 53

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SUBJECT: SWEDISH AID TO ANGOLANS

REF: (A) 75 STOCKHOLM 5614, (B) 75 STOCKHOLM 5695,

(C) 75 STOCKHOLM 5739

SUMMARY. SWEDEN HAS NOW DISBURSED ALL AID APPROPRIATED IN FY 1975 AND PREVIOUS YEARS TO MPLA. WITH ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE, MPLA NO LONGER COMES UNDER ESTABLISHED SWEDISH CATEGORY OF AID TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. NOW SWEDISH GOVERNMENT IS CONTRIBUTING "CATASTROPHE AID" THROUGH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND SWEDISH FREE-CHURCH HELP, IF NOT ALTOGETHER EVEN-HANDEDLY AT LEAST IN SOME AMOUNT TO FNLA AND UNITA AS WELL AS TO MPLA. GOS IS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE LONG-TERM "DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE" TO A SATISFACTORILY PROGRESSIVE REGIME SHOULD ONE EMERGE THERE. END SUMMARY.

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1. SWEDISH AID DISBURSEMENTS TO MPLA DURING PERIOD JULY 1,

1974 TO DECEMBER 31, 1975 AMOUNTED TO APPROXIMATELY SKR 6.2 MILLION (CURRENTLY US \$1.41 MILLION; \$1.00 EQUALS SKR 4.40, INCLUDING FUNDS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS YEARS. OF THIS AMOUNT ONLY SKR 1.45 MILLION WAS DISBURSED IN FY 1975; THE REMAINDER WAS DISBURSED DURING AUTUMN 1975. ALL OF THIS MONEY HAD BEEN APPROPRIATED BY GOS BEFORE ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE, AT TIME WHEN MPLA WAS "LIBERATION" MOVEMENT. FY 1975 DISBURSEMENTS

FOOD SKR 800.000 VEHICLES 200,000 SCHOOL BOOKS 100,000

MPLA REPRESENTATIVE

IN SWEDEN 45,000

SKR 1,145,000

FALL 1975 DISBURSEMENTS

FOOD 1,350,000

AMBULANCES 700,000

BASIC MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR HEALTH
-CARE CENTERS 1,000,000

PAPER 2,005,000

SKR 5,055,000

TOTAL: SKR 6,200,000

- 2. SWEDEN SUPPORTED MPLA SINCE 1970/71, AT FIRST WITH SMALL SUMS. AID APPROPRIATED TO MPLA AMOUNTED TO SKR 2 MILLION IN FY 1973 AND SKR 3.5 MILLION IN FY 1974. ACTUAL DISBURSEMENTS WERE ONLY SKR 100,000 AND SKR 1.6 MILLION, RESPECTIVELY, IN THOSE YEARS HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL SWEDISH STATISTICS PUBLISHED LATE IN 1975.
- 3. ACCORDING TO BENGT SAVE-SODERBERGH, MFA AFRICAN AID OFFICER, GOS IS NOT PROVIDING FURTHER DIRECT AID TO MPLA SINCE THIS GROUP NO LONGER COMES UNDER RUBRIC OF A "LIBERATION MOVEMENT", WHICH IS A SPECIFIC SWEDISH FUNDING CATEGORY. AID MINISTER GERTRUD SIGURDSEN ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 20 THAT GOVERNMENT HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSTPONED REQUESTING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUNDS FOR ANGOLA FOR FY 1976, PENDING OBSERVATION OF DEVELOPMENTS THERE. GOS, SHE SAID, HAS STATED ITS READINESS TO SUPPORT "A DEVELOPMENT WHICH PROMOTES INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ANGOLAN PEOPLE" -- THE KIND OF DESCRIPTION GOS RESERVES FOR "PROGRESSIVE" REGIMES.

4. IN FY 1976 SWEDEN WILL ONLY PROVIDE ANGOLANS CATASTROPHE

AID THROUGH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND FREE-CHURCH HELP (FCH), THE AID ARM OF THE NONESTABLISHED CHURCHES INSWEDEN. ACCORDING TO SAVE-SODERBERGH, THE FOLLOWING SUMS ARE INVOLVED:

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS SKR 700,000 SWEDISH MEDICAL TEAM IN MPLA AREA SKR 400,000 FREE-CHURCH HELP 500,000 TOTAL: SKR1,200,000

- 5. KURT KRISTIANSSON OF SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA) HAS SOUGHT TO IMPRESS EMBOFF WITH NEUTRAL CHARACTER OF ANGOLAN CATASTROPHE AID. MONEY CONTRIBUTED TO RED CROSS WILL BE USED TO HELP ALL THREE AREAS OF ANGOLA. FCH PROGRAM, PLANNED IN CONSULTATION WITH UN REFUGEE COMMISSION IN LUANDA, WILL ASSIST FNLA AS WELL AS MPLA AREAS. SIDA WILL CONTRIBUTE HALF THE FUNDS FOR FCH PROGRAM, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COST OVER SKR 1 MILLION; REST OF MONEY WILL BE RAISED THROUGH CHURCH COLLECTIONS IN SWEDEN. CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOTH AREAS WILL CONSIST OF FOOD, SEEDS FOR PLANTING, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND BLANKETS; IN ADDITION FCH WILL PROVIDE DISPENSARY AND FACILTIES FOR PURCHASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT IN FNLA AREA. KRISTIANSSON ASSERTED THAT ONLY REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION OF CATASTROPHE AID ARE ACUTE NEED AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF AID EFFECTIVENESS.
- 6. COMMENT. SAVE-SODERBERGH CLAIMED GOS AIDED MPLA BECAUSE THAT GROUP CARRIED OUT WELFARE ACTIVITES THAT GOS COULD ASSIST. UNITA, ONLY RATHER RECENTLY FORMED, AND FNLA WERE WHOLLY MILITARY IN CHARACTER. FURTHER, SWEDES CONSIDERED MPLA TO COVER WIDER SOCIAL SPECTRUM THAN MORE NARROWLY TRIBAL FNLA AND UNITA GROUPS.
- 7. OFFERING HIS OWN OPINION, SAVE-SODERBERGH QUESTIONED WHETHER MPLA IS "MOSCOW-ORIENTED". WHILE NOT DOUBTING ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADHERENCE TO MARXISM, HE BELIEVED MPLA WANTED FULLY INDEPENDENT NAGOLA. HE CLAIMED THAT IN MANY TALKS WITH RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE WITHIN MPLA -- HE HAS MET WITH DR. NETO "MANY TIMES" AND LAST IN JUNE -- THEY MADE CLEAR THEIR DESIRE FOR NONALIGNMENT. LAST JULY MPLA URGED INVESTMENT BY SWEDISH COMPANIES IN ITS AREA. SAVE-SODERBERGH OBSERVED THAT, IN PAST, SUPPLY OF ARMS HAD NOT GAINED USSR CONTROL OF ANY AREA IN AFRICA; HE NOTED THAT SOVIET UNION DOES NOT EVEN HAVE EMBASSY IN MOZAMBIQUE. SAVE-SODERBERGH'S VIEWS ON BENIGN NATURE OF MPLA'S MOSCOW TIES ARE AT VARIANCE WITH SKEPTICISM EXPRESSED BY MORE SENIOR MFA OFFICIALS TOWARDS SOVIET ROLE IN ANGOLA. (REFTELS).

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